



1934 Round 3 Saturday 5th May Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 18

def.

University 9

Frank McMILLAN (c)
Vince SHEEHAN
Stan TANCRED
Alan BRADY
Alan RIDLEY
Vic HEY
Les MEAD
Frank SPONBERG
Charlie CORNWELL
Jack McCONNELL
Ray HANCOCK
George SHERRY
Alan BLAKE

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-eighth
Half
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row

Hugh WILLIS
Rod O'LOAN
Jack DEMPSEY
Jack REDMAN
Jack GRAY-SPENCE
John ELLIOTT
Tom McINERNEY (c)
Gordon FAVELLE
Russell COOPER
Jim GREGAN
Jack SPILLANE
John BECKLEY
Jim COMANS

Tries

Alan RIDLEY (2)
Vic HEY (2)
Les MEAD
Charlie CORNWELL

Gordon FAVELLE

Goals

Tom McINERNEY (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: F McMillan; three-quarters: A Ridley, S Tancred, A Brady, V Sheehan; halves: V Hey, L Mead; forwards: F Sponberg, C Cornwell, J McConnell, A Blake, G Sherry, R Hancock

University: Full-back: H Willis; three-quarters: R O'Loan, J Dempsey, J Redman, J Gray-Spence; halves: J Elliott, T B McInerney; forwards: G Favell, J Gregan, R Cooper, J Spillane, J Beckley, J Comans **Referee: T McMahon (Rugby League News 19th May 1934)**

Notwithstanding the formidable opposition, University made a grand showing, and interest was maintained throughout, despite the margin in the scores. The playing arena was very sodden and heavy, but when the teams took the field the weather was fine, and continued so for the whole period of play. Lindfield was unable to appear for Western Suburbs, owing to a poisoned hand, and University was without McKinnon (five-eighth) and O'Rourke (centre three-quarter), who were nursing injuries. Magnificent service was supplied by the University vanguard. Beckley beat Sherry, who occupied the rake position for Western Suburbs, in Lindfield's absence, pointless in the scrums, and the persistent and dogged ruck work of the other forwards won the ball repeatedly. McInerney, the half, had plenty of scope, but Elliott, promoted to McKinnon's place from the reserves, lacked the penetrative ability of the latter, although he defended soundly. Sensing the five-eighth's inability to thrust, McInerney attempted to break through on his own. He made several nice dashes, but was generally unsupported. Whatever the rear-guard were deficient in attack, they balanced by great defence. Each man nobly played his part, by getting his man soundly and surely with fine tackles. Western Suburbs, although failing in the forward exchanges, displayed cohesion and speed in the back division. Mead and Hey, with their limited supply of the ball, made the most of their opportunities. The ball was transferred cleanly during the fast moving attacks by the Wests' backs, and it was due only to the grim defence of the opposition that kept them in check and prevented a greater total being secured. Hey's crashing runs were an outstanding feature towards the close, when the leg weary, but still determined students, did not move on to him as quickly. Ridley also displayed his customary speed along the right flank; but he was also met by determined defence. The opposition, despite the hard knocks they sustained stopping his flying raids, moved fast towards him when the play swung towards his wing. Gray-Spence, who opposed him, was pluckily carrying on with a badly jarred shoulder that troubled him throughout the second period. Favell, the University leader and lock-man, gave an inspiring display. He was in the thick of the play continually and never ceased in his efforts both in attack and defence, and it was fitting that he should be rewarded, by gaining University's only try. McInerney, the half-back, also did an enormous amount of work, in a most able manner. O'Loan and Favell in the first period and Comans and Cooper in the second half just failed to capitalise when tries appeared on the verge of fruition. Of the six tries scored by Western Suburbs not one was converted; Mead, Cornwell, McMillan, and Ridley failing from their attempts. McMillan, with little to do, exhibited dash and nonplussed the opposition occasionally, by going through the openings in their ranks. Mead and Hey were sound, and the three-quarter line also moved nicely, although Sheehan was uncertain at times. Cornwell and Sponberg stood out in the forwards. ... J Spillane, of University, was sent off the field in the second half. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 7th May 1934)**

Notes: This marked the debut of George Sherry, who came in for Bob Lindfield, who had a poisoned hand, but he was soundly beaten in the scrums. The Mead/Hey combination was again dominant and their hard running was causing chaos for opposition defences. Jim Spillane was sent off in the second half, helping Wests' cause. Goal kicking was a significant problem and it was surprising that Mead or McMillan were not persevered with as kickers.